

Amendments to the Claims

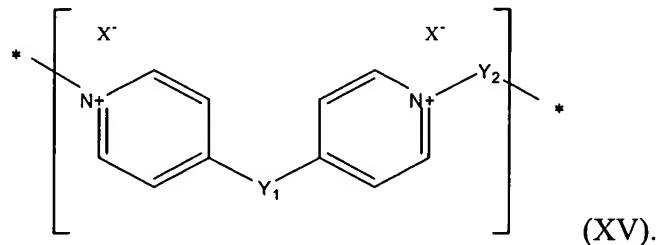
Please cancel claims 1-35, 51-58, 61-64 and 72-74. Please add new Claims 75 and 76.

The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1.-35. Canceled.

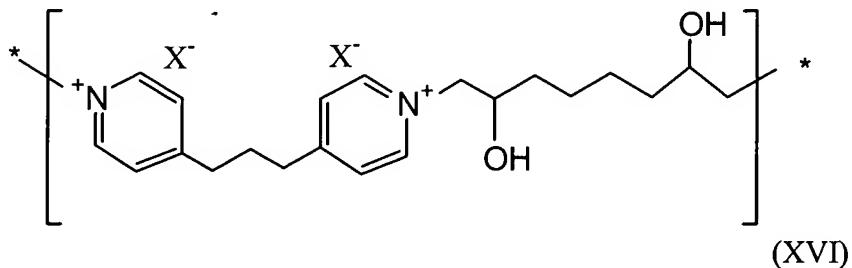
36. (Original) A polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:

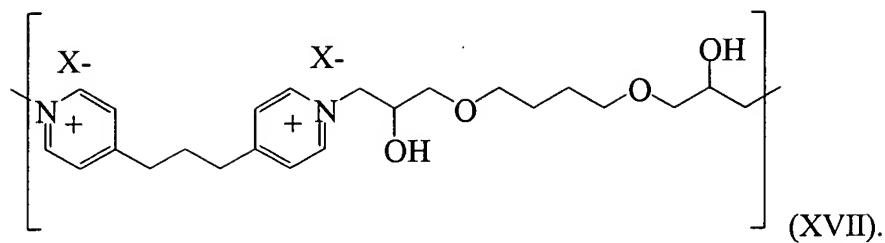


wherein Y₁ and Y₂ are independently a lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group, provided that Y₂ is substituted with two or more alcohol groups; each X⁻, separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion; and said polymer or copolymer is substantially free of diphenol.

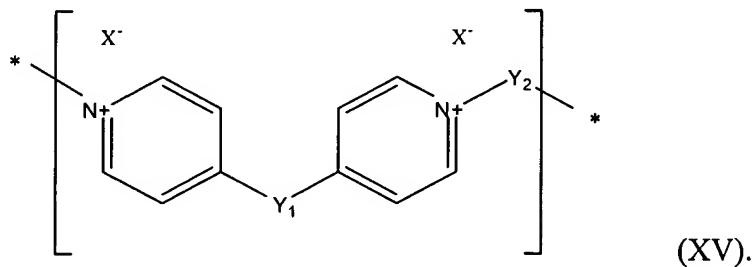
37. (Original) The polymer of Claim 36, wherein said polymer is a homopolymer.

38. (Previously Presented) The polymer or copolymer of Claim 36 wherein the polymer or copolymer is characterized by repeat units of formula XVI or XVII:



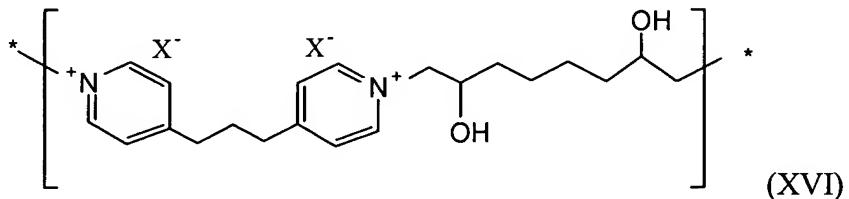


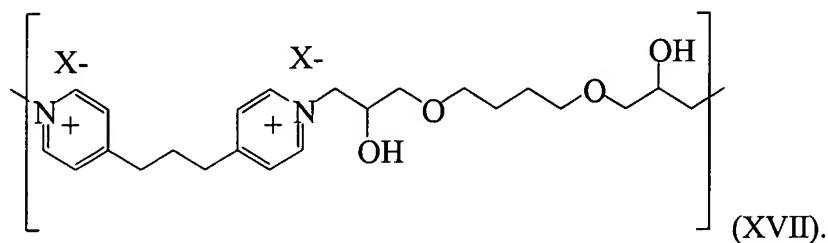
39. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a physiologically acceptable carrier or diluent and a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



wherein Y_1 and Y_2 are each independently a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group; and each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

40. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 39, wherein at least one lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group represented by Y_1 and Y_2 is substituted.
41. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 39, wherein the polymer or copolymer is characterized by repeat units of formula XVI or XVII:



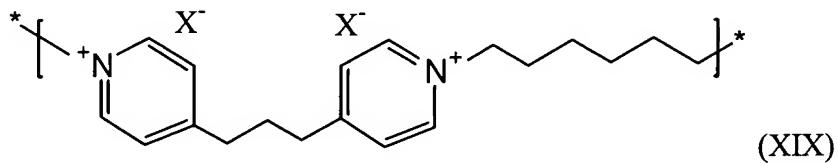


42. (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim 36.
43. (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a homopolymer of Claim 37.
44. (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim 38.
45. (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 39.
46. (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 40.
47. (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 41.

48. (Original) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim 36.
49. (Original) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a homopolymer of Claim 37.
50. (Original) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim 38.

51.-58. Canceled.

59. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:

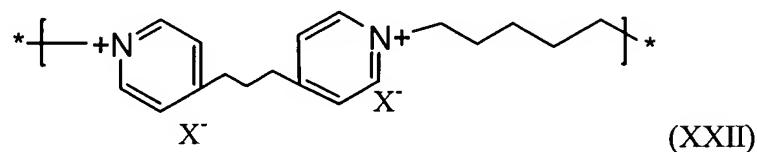


and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein each X⁻, separately or taken together, is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

60. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection in the gastrointestinal tract of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 59.

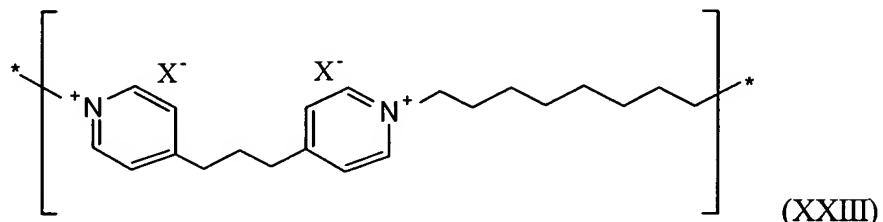
61.-64. Canceled.

65. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



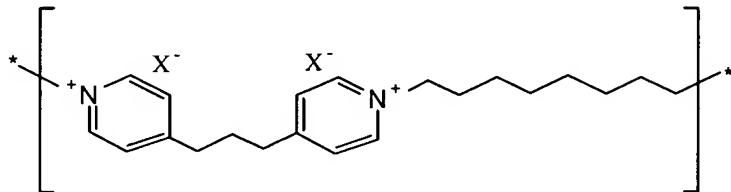
and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

66. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection of the oral mucosa or gastrointestinal tract of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 65.
67. (Withdrawn) A copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



wherein each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

68. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



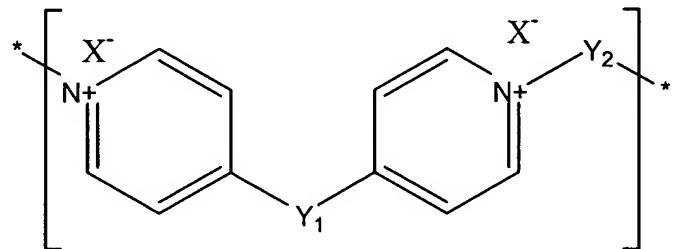
(XXIII),

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein each X⁻, separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

- 69. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a copolymer of claim 67.
- 70. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 68.
- 71. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a copolymer of claim 67.

72.-74. Canceled.

- 75. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a physiologically acceptable carrier or diluent and a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



(XV)

wherein Y₁ and Y₂ are each independently a lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group, provided that Y₂ is substituted with two or more alcohol groups; and each X⁻, separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

76. (New) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 75.